

Message Text

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64

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 SAB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01 DHA-02

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R 181900Z MAY 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7551

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2147

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, RQ, PN, PQ, KN, KS, UN

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: NEPAL'S AMBASSADOR UPADHYAY

DISCUSSES PUERTO RICO, THE PANAMA CANAL, AND KOREA

REF: STATE 109822

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1. SUMMARY: NEPAL'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE UPADHYAY HAS EXPRESSED CONCERN TO US THAT NONALIGNED MOVEMENT IS LOSING ITS INTEGRITY AND DRIFTING TOWARD EXTREMISM. HE CHARGED CUBA AND ALGERIA WITH TRYING TO PERSUADE NONALIGNED COUNTRIES TO ADOPT EXTREMIST POSITIONS. UPADHYAY UNDERSCORED HIS OPPOSITION TO EXTREMISM AND SAID HE WOULD OPPOSE RASH ACTIONS BY NON-ALIGNED ON KOREA, THE PANAMA CANAL, AND PUERTO RICO.END SUMMARY.

2. UPADHYAY AGREED THAT PUERTO RICO WAS AN INTERNAL US MATTER. HE SAID "SO-CALLED PUERTO RICO ISSUE" WAS OF NO REAL INTEREST TO NEPAL. HE ADDED THAT OTHER NONALIGNED COUNTRIES, WHICH HE DID NOT IDENTIFY, ALSO FELT IT IMPROPER FOR NONALIGNED TO CONCERN THEMSELVES WITH PUERTO RICO. HE COMMENTED, HOWEVER, THAT SOME OF THOSE COUNTRIES "PERHAPS HOPE FOR LOANS" FROM MORE AGGRESSIVE MEMBERS AND THEREFORE STAY QUIET ON PUERTO RICO. UPADHYAY SAID HE WOULD WORK TO PERSUADE NONALIGNED COUNTRIES TO KEEP PUERTO RICO OFF AGENDAS AT COLOMBO AND 31ST UNGA.

3. REGARDING PANAMA CANAL ISSUE, UPADHYAY SAID HE WAS INCLINED ALONG WITH MANY OTHERS IN NONALIGNED TO LEAVE THIS MATTER TO BILATERAL US-PANAMA DISCUSSION. HE SAID ONLY A MINORITY OF MILITANT RADICALS SOUGHT TO STRESS THIS ISSUE AT NONALIGNED MEETINGS. HE EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO ADVOCATE THAT NONALIGNED SHOULD LEAVE CANAL TREATY TO U.S. AND PANAMA.

4. UPADHYAY DESCRIBED KOREA AS A MORE COMPLEX ISSUE FOR NEPAL. HE SAID NEPAL SOUGHT EVEN-HANDED RELATIONS WITH BOTH SOUTH AND NORTH KOREA. UPADHYAY CONTINUED THAT US SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT NEPAL MUST FACE THE REALITIES OF ITS GEOPOLITICAL POSITION. HE STRESSED THAT NEPAL COULD NOT AFFORD TO ANTAGONIZE ITS POWERFUL NEIGHBORS BY VOTING AGAINST NORTH KOREA. IF KOREA COMES TO VOTE AT 31ST UNGA, NEPAL WILL NEED TO ABSTAIN AGAIN. UPADHYAY VOLUNTEERED THAT REMOVAL OF UN COMMAND WOULD DEFUSE KOREA AS AN ISSUE AT UN. HE SAID MANY OF NONALIGNED WOULD JUMP AT THE CHANCE TO TELL NORTH KOREA'S BACKERS THAT THEY NO LONGER SAW ANY REASON TO DEBATE KOREA AT UN. NEPAL WOULD BE HAPPY TO FIND SOME WAY TO ELIMINATE KOREA FROM UNGA. UPADHYAY CHARACTERIZED NORTH KOREA'S PRETENSIONS OF BEING A GENUINE NONALIGNED COUNTRY AS CONFIDENTIAL

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"ABSURD."

5. UPADHYAY INDICATED THAT HE ENJOYS CONSIDERABLE LATITUDE IN DECISION MAKING AT UN. HE IMPLIED THAT SLOW COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN NEW YORK AND KATHMANDU ARE A FACTOR IN THIS.

6. GOVERNOR SCRANTON IS SCHEDULED TO RECEIVE COURTESY CALL FROM UPADHYAY ON JUNE 4. IN INTERIM UPADHYAY WILL ATTEND

SEMINAR ON APARTHEID IN HAVANA, CIRCA MAY 20-26. HE HAS
BEEN ALERTED BY KATHMANDU THAT HE MAY BE ATTENDING THE
MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETING OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE OF
NONALIGNED COUNTRIES IN ALGIERS, MAY 30-JUNE2. LATER IN JUNE
HE MAY TRAVEL TO KATHMANDU ON CONSULTATIONS.
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